

FIRST DIVISION

[G.R. No. 210801, July 18, 2016]

PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES, PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE, VS. ALVIN CENIDO Y PICONES AND REMEDIOS CONTRERAS Y CRUZ, ACCUSED-APPELLANTS.

R E S O L U T I O N

PERLAS-BERNABE, J.:

On July 7, 2014, the Court rendered its Resolution^[1] (July 7, 2014 Resolution) in this case finding accused-appellants Alvin Cenido y Picones and Remedios Contreras y Cruz (Remedios; collectively, accused-appellants) guilty beyond reasonable doubt of Illegal Sale and Possession of Prohibited Drugs, the dispositive portion of which reads:

WHEREFORE, the Court **ADOPTS** the findings of fact and conclusions of law in the July 31, 2013 Decision of the [Court of Appeals] in CA-G.R. CR-H.C. No. 05333 and **AFFIRMS** said Decision finding accused-appellants Alvin Cenido y Picones and Remedios Contreras y Cruz **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt of Illegal Sale and Possession of Prohibited Drugs, respectively, sentencing: (a) Alvin Cenido y Picones to suffer the penalty of life imprisonment and to pay a fine of P500,000.00 for violation of Section 5, Article II of Republic Act No. 9165, otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002[";"] and (b) Remedios Contreras y Cruz to suffer the indeterminate penalty of twelve (12) years and one .(1) day, as minimum, to, thirteen (13) years, as maximum, and to pay a fine of P300,000.00 for violation of Section 11, Article II of the same Act.

SO ORDERED.^[2]

On August 12, 2014, accused-appellants jointly moved for reconsideration^[3] thereof, which the Court denied with finality in its Resolution^[4] dated December 1, 2014.

Meanwhile, on April 11, 2014, the Court received a Letter^[5] dated April 10, 2014 from the Correctional Institution for Women informing the Court of the death of one of the accused-appellants in this case, Remedios, on March 7, 2014.^[6] In a Resolution^[7] dated September 9, 2015, the Court required the Superintendent of the Correctional Institution for Women to furnish the Court with a certified true copy of Remedios's death certificate and, in compliance thereto, the same was submitted by Officer-In-Charge Elsa Aquino-Alabado on February 11, 2016.^[8] As Remedios's death transpired before the promulgation of the Court's July 7, 2014 Resolution in this case, *i.e.*, when her appeal before the Court was still pending resolution, her